

## **EX88. FALKIRK TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE (THI) UPDATE REPORT**

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Development Services on the outcome of the Council's Round 2 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for funding to establish a Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) in Falkirk Town Centre, and the programme for delivering the THI going forward.

The Executive had previously approved the Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiative Round 2 bid and the bid was subsequently submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) by the deadline of May 2013. In September, HLF Trustees approved the detailed Round 2 bid and confirmed an award of £1.949m. .

This funding was in addition to the £1.6m already awarded by Historic Scotland as part of its Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme. As a result of this, and funding from other partners, over £5m would be invested in the Falkirk Town Centre Conservation Area over the next five years.

The Council would be required to make a contribution of £1.304m. Of this, £600k had been allocated from revenue and capital budgets, leaving a funding gap of £704k, to be met from revenue budgets over the 5 years of the THI.

Details were given on the Falkirk THI delivery programme, the Falkirk Town Centre Conservation Area management plan and additional implications.

### **Decision**

#### **The Executive:-**

- (1) noted the successful outcome of the Falkirk Townscape Heritage Initiative Round 2 bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund;**
- (2) agreed to progress the Townscape Heritage Initiative to the delivery stage as described in the report, and**
- (3) agreed to receive further annual reports on the delivery of the THI and any additional implications for the Council.**